

# EXPEDITIONARY FIRE SUPPORT SYSTEM (EFSS)

## DESCRIPTION

The Expeditionary Fire Support System (EFSS) will be the third and final system of a land-based fire support triad that includes the Lightweight 155mm Howitzer and High Mobility Artillery Rocket System. Accompanying Marine Air Ground Task Forces (MAGTFs) in all types of expeditionary operations, EFSS will be the primary indirect fire support system for the vertical assault element of the Ship To Objective Maneuver force. As such, the EFSS launcher, the mobility platform, a portion of the basic load of ammunition, and a portion of its crew will be internally transportable by a single CH-53E helicopter and/or a single MV-22 tilt rotor aircraft, and will possess the greatest possible range and flexibility of employment for operational maneuver from the sea.

## OPERATIONAL IMPACT

EFSS will expand the maneuver commander's spectrum of fire support options and be capable of successfully engaging a spectrum of potential point and area targets, including motorized, light armored, and dismounted personnel, command and control systems, and

indirect fire systems. EFSS will afford the MAGTF commander increased flexibility in tailoring his fire support systems to support the scheme of maneuver. EFSS-equipped units will be especially well-suited for missions requiring speed, tactical agility, and vertical transportability. The EFSS design and configuration will ensure that its tactical mobility, both in the air and on the ground, is equal to that of the force supported.

## PROGRAM STATUS

The EFSS Program is currently in production and deployment. A full rate production decision is planned for May 2008 and initial operational capability is planned for summer 2008, when one artillery regiment receives six EFSS systems.

Procurement Profile:	FY2008	FY2009
Quantity:	7	23

Developer/Manufacturer:  
GD-OTS with subcontractor TDA Armements (THALES Group), La Ferte-Saint Aubin, France